

3-14-1982 Congregational Senior Minister Election Results

[Speaker 1]

It's been determined that there's certainly more than the 100 people present that's required for our forum to conduct business. And the purpose of this meeting, of course, this morning, is to act upon the recommendation of the Public Committee in the selection of a new head minister for Fountain Street Church. Notice of this meeting has been mailed to all members of record in accordance with the bylaws.

I'd like to introduce the parliamentarian for this morning as Sue Blanchard. The scribe is Barbara Kahn. And the head teller is John Bierce.

If there is anyone in the sanctuary right now who has not had an opportunity to vote, I will give you the last call to please go into the chapel and cast your ballots. I think that while we had to call the meeting to order, and we had to give everybody an opportunity to vote, I'm sure you're aware that many people have done just that. They voted this morning.

And so seeing no other way out, we must necessarily right now have a pause so that the tellers can tabulate the final votes. And as soon as we have that tabulation, we will give you the results. May I call the meeting back to order, please?

I've been given the tally from the head teller. I'd like to make this announcement. There was a total of 880 ballots cast in this election.

There were 877 in favor, there were two against, and one abstention. Applause Obviously we're all very pleased. And I'd like to at this time thank the pulpit committee for their endless hours of work and their dedication to the job that they were charged with.

And I'd like also to thank all of the congregation that have participated in this to make this the success that it has been. I think John Logie would like to make just one final comment. Everybody has to have a swan sock on.

[Speaker 2]

I am going to be a very poor substitute for the real thing because what I have to say to you are a couple of things. Number one, David Reagan, who we have almost unanimously now asked to be our next minister, is in the process of getting on the way to leave town. And we had a long discussion about changing flights and everything else, whether or not he should be here at this time.

That discussion went on as current as last night when he and I together agreed that perhaps the best thing to do if we have this kind of vote is simply communicate our decision to him and let him in his own time communicate his decision to us, which is what he intends to do. Now I

don't know in what form or how, but I can assure you that very shortly he will know the results of this election. So I hope if you are anticipating and waiting to see him again that you are not terribly disappointed.

My hope, of course, is that we will see him shortly. Incidentally, a number of people asked about timetable, assuming the success of this vote and his decision to join us. And the timetable now looks like the fall with the other things that he has to do to wind up his affairs, again assuming that we are all on track.

In any event, we felt it was better that this membership make this choice and make this decision on its own. We didn't want him hovering in the wings, as it were, even though we hoped for this kind of result. So the format would be for us to communicate our decision to him and he then to respond in his own time, hopefully very quickly, to us.

Obviously that response is either going to come through the public committee or from David Rankin directly to all of you in the congregation.